J. Douglas #13/B

O I P Astorney's Docket No. 5689-165

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE $\mathcal{Z}-$

In **105** Marial No.: Kevin J. Ward 08/905,130

1 August 1997

Group Art Unit:

3741 RECEIVED

Examiner: A. F

MAR 2 4 1999

For:

MULTILAYER FORMING FABRIC

WITH STITCHING YARN PAIRS INTEGRATED

INTO PAPERMAKING SURFACE

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

Date: March 18, 1999

BOX AMENDMENT Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED 26 FEBRUARY 1999

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action dated 26 February 1999. Please amend the claims as follows. Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter.

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

(Twice amended) A papermaker's fabric, comprising top machine direction yarns, top cross machine direction yarns, bottom machine direction yarns, bottom cross machine direction yarns, and sets of first and second stitching yarns, said fabric being formed in a plurality of repeating units, each of said repeating units comprising:

a set of top machine direction yarns;

a set of top cross machine direction yarns interwoven with said set of top

machine direction yarns;

a set of bottom machine direction yarns;

a set of bottom cross machine direction yarns interwoven with said set of bottom machine direction yarns;

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